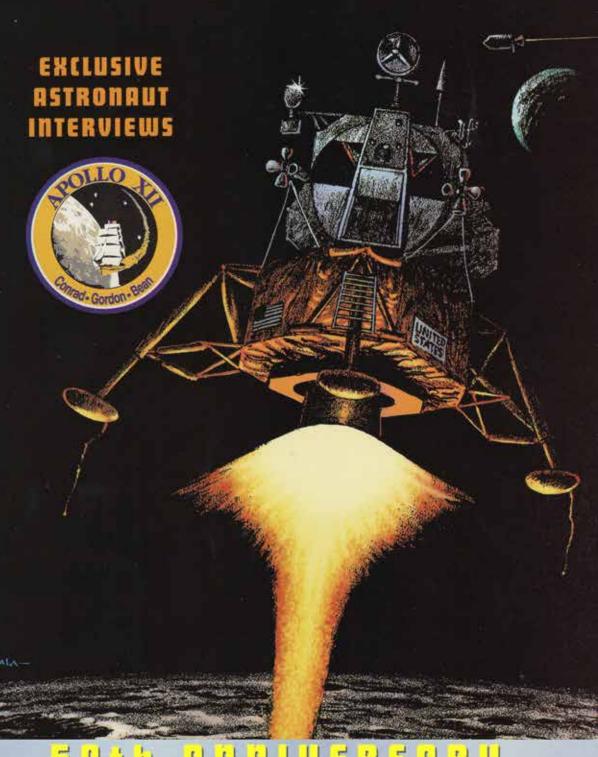
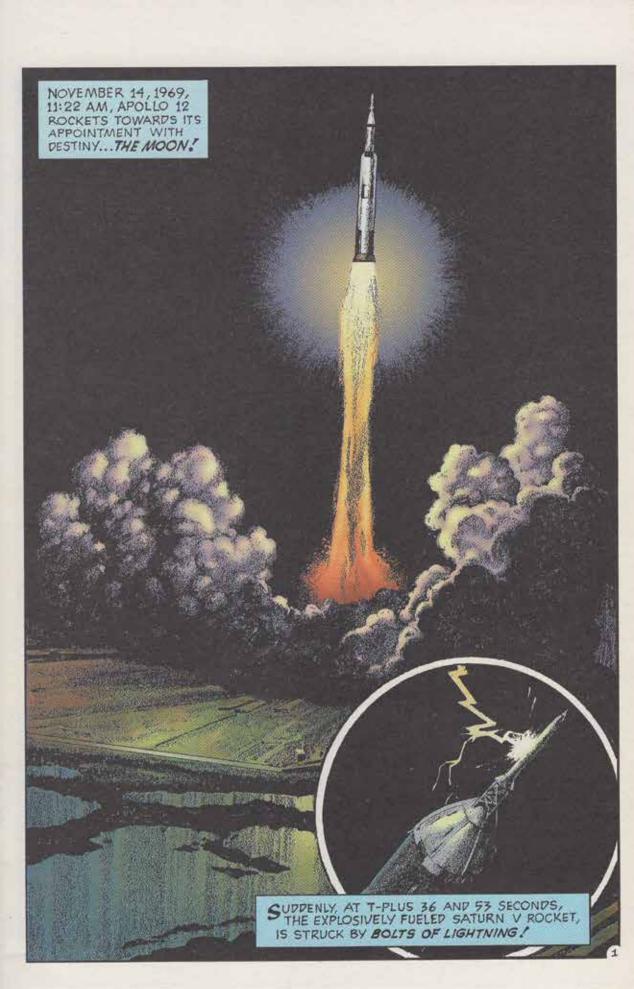
SPECIAL 25th ANNIVERSARY EDITION



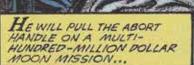




MOON SHOT, The Flight of Apollo 12, was published originally by Pepper Pike Graphix Inc. in June 1994. NASA created this 50th anniversary electronic reproduction through the courtesy of copyright owners Nancy Conrad, D.C. Agle and Kurt Blemaster.



















PEPPER PIKE GRAPHIX PRESENTS

moon shot

The Flight of Apollo 12

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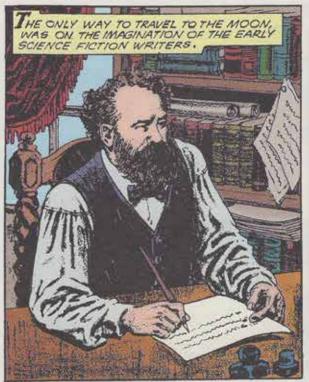
Motivational Consultant: Dr. Harold Cohn

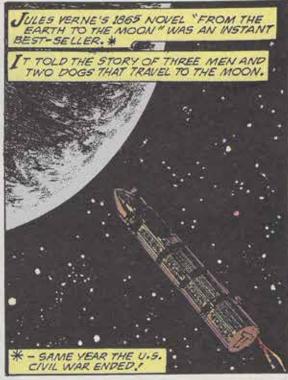
Technical Consultant: Capt. Charles "Pete" Conrad USN (Ret.)

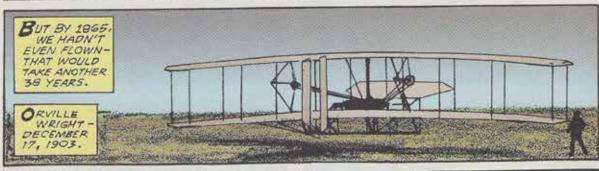
Capt. Richard Gordon USN (Ret.) Capt. Alan Bean USN (Ret.)

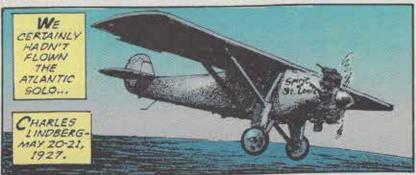




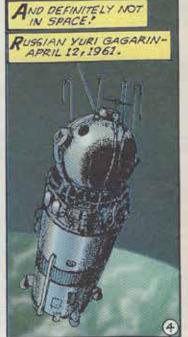


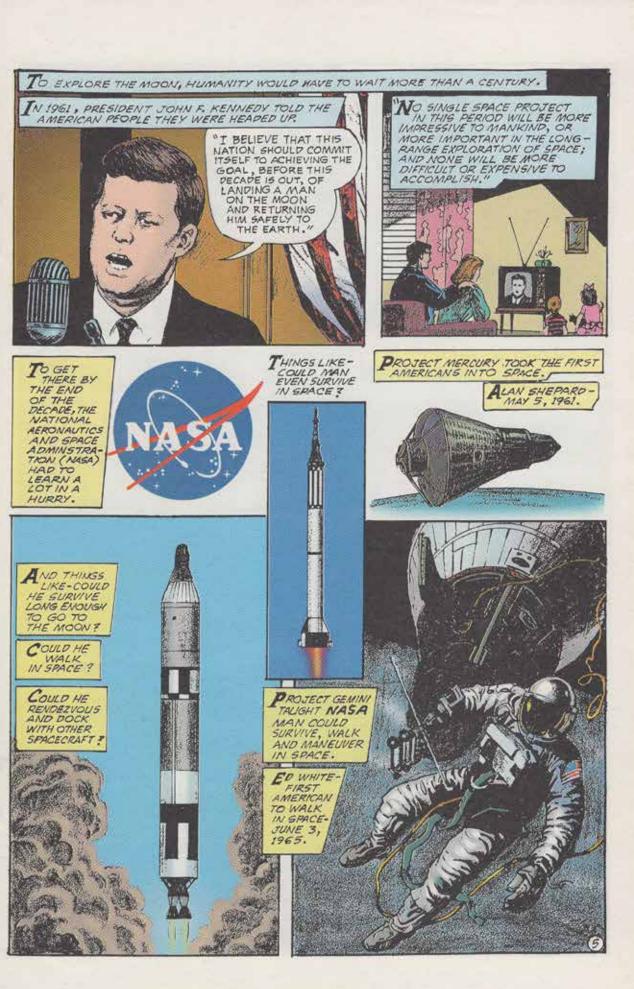


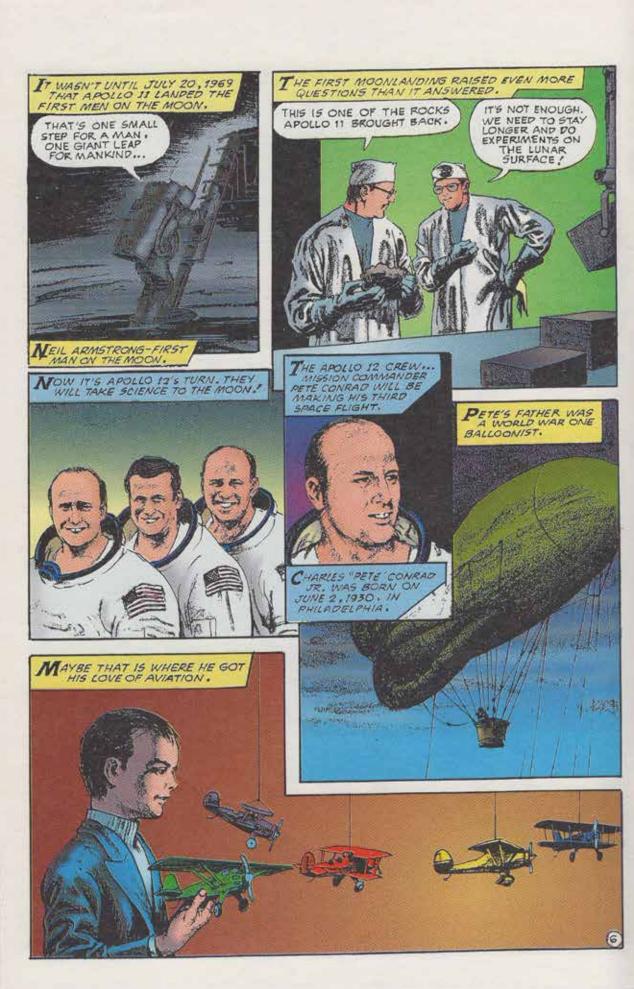


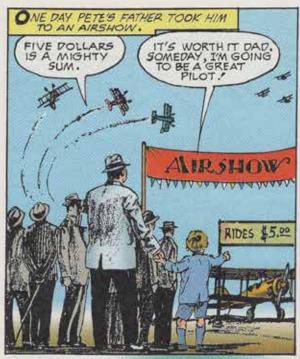




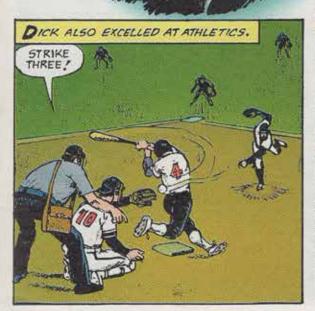






























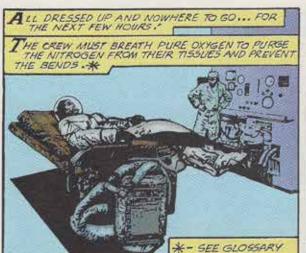




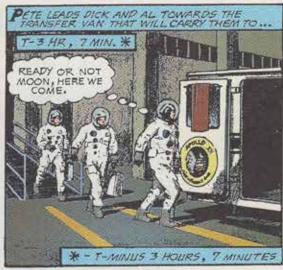


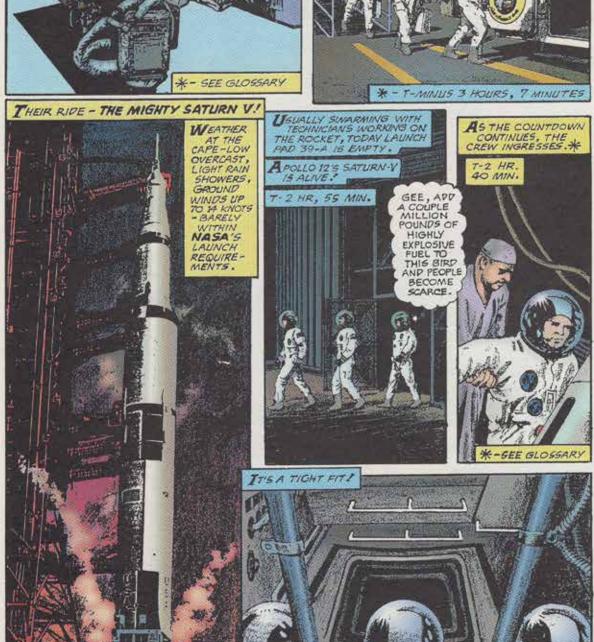


The Apollo suit would cost \$685,000 in 2019. Visit www.nasa.gov/suitup to find out about the space suit for lunar astronauts of the Artemis Generation.



* SEE TECH NOTE





COMMAND MODULE. VANHEE CURRER

STATS:

SERIAL NUMBER: CSM-108

MANUFACTURER: North American Rockwell

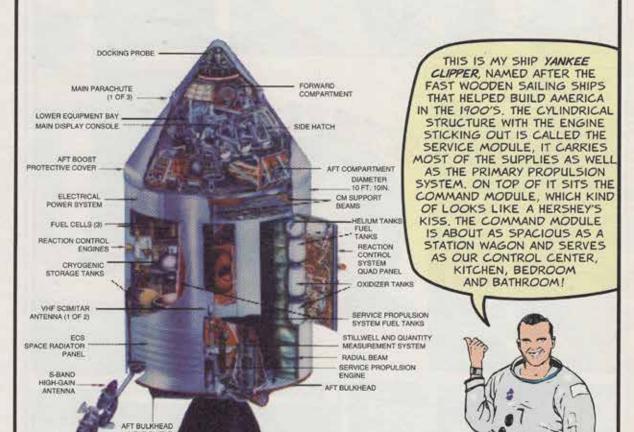
HEIGHT: 33 ft. DIAMETER: 13 ft. ROCKETS: 29

- Command Module has twelve attitude

XXthrusters

 Service Module has sixteen attitude XXthrusters and one Service Propulsion XXSystem (SPS) SPS THRUST: 20,050 lbs.

LOADED WEIGHT (fully fueled): 63,570 lbs.



FUN FACTS:

The Command and Service Modules contain over two million parts!

The Command Module alone contains fifteen miles of wiring, enough to supply fifty twobedroom homes!

Unlike the lunar module, the command module is designed for both air and space and must endure temperatures ranging from -280-degrees Fahrenheit to +5000-degrees Fahrenheit during reentry!

Read Tech Notes about Orion, the new NASA spacecraft that will carry the first woman and the next man to the Moon by 2024, on the next page.

SERVICE PROPULSION ENGINE NOZZLE

DIAMETER 7 FT. 10.5 IN

Orion is America's next generation spacecraft that will take astronauts to exciting destinations never explored by humans. It will serve as the exploration vehicle that will carry the crew to distant planetary bodies, provide emergency abort capability, sustain the crew during space travel, and provide safe reentry from deep space.





Number of crew	4
Total change in velocity	4,390 ft/s
Gross liftoff weight	78,010 lbs
Injected mass	

Launch Abort System - Emergency Crew Escape System

Mass Properties

Dry mass/propellant 11,120 lbs Gross liftoff weight... 16,850 lbs

Crew Module - Crew and Cargo Transport

Habitable volume (net)	316 ff ⁵
Reaction control system (RCS) vacuum engine thrust16	0 lbt/engine
Return payload	220 lbs

Mass Properties

Dry mass/propellant	22,397 lbs
Oxygen/hitrogen/water	133 lbs
Propellant	
Landing weight	20,500 lbs
Gross liftoff weight	

Service Module - Propulsion, Electrical Power, Fluids Storage

Mass Properties

Dry mass 13,635 lbs Gross liftoff weight 34.085 lbs

Orion-to-Stage Adapter

Mass Properties

Jettisoned Fairings 3,050 lbs Spacecraft Adapter ... 1,125 lbs

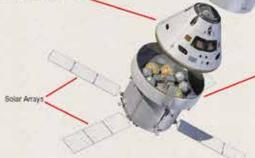


Launch Abort System

The launch abort system, positioned above the crew module, can activate within milliseconds to pull the crew to safety and position the module for a safe landing.



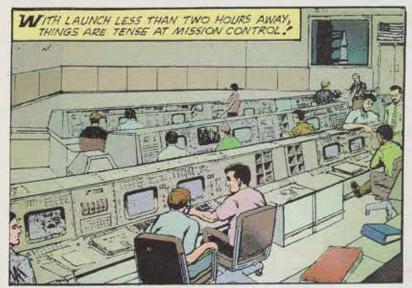
The crew module is capable of transporting four crew members beyond low-Earth orbit, providing a safe habitat from launch through landing and recovery.

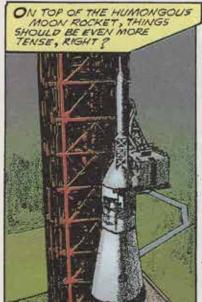


Service Module

The service module provides support to the crew module from launch through crew module separation prior to entry. It provides in-space propulsion capability for orbital transfer, attitude control, and high attitude ascent aborts. While mated with the crew module, it also provides water, oxygen and nitrogen to support the crew module living environment, generates and stores power while in space, and provides primary thermal control. The service module also has the capability to accommodate unpressurized cargo.















ELIL TO SATURALY

STATS: SERIAL NUMBER: AS-507 FUN FACTS:

The thirty seven rocket engines of the Saturn V have thrust ratings ranging from 70 lbs. to more than 1.5 million!

Made up of three million parts, the Saturn V consists of three stages and an instrument unit which provides vehicle guidance, navigation and control.

Due to the extremely cold propellant that powers the Saturn V, the 363 foot tall rocket actually shrinks ten inches when fully fueled!

INSTRUMENT UNIT (IU) MANUFACTURER: IBM HEIGHT: 3 ft. DIAMETER: 21 ft. 8 in.

WEIGHT: 4,306 lbs.

THIRD STAGE (S-IVB)

MANUFACTURER: McDonnell Douglas

HEIGHT: 58.3 ft. DIAMETER: 21.7 ft. MAIN ENGINES: One J-2

WEIGHT: 260,523 lbs. (fueled), 25,000 lbs. (dry)

FUN FACT:

Insulation between the third stage's liquid hydrogen and liquid oxygen tanks is necessary because liquid oxygen (-293-degrees Fahrenheit), is WARM ENOUGH to rapidly heat liquid hydrogen (-423-degrees Fahrenheit).

SECOND STAGE (S-II)
MANUFACTURER: North American Rockwell
HEIGHT: 81 ft.
DIAMETER: 33 ft.
MAIN ENGINES: Five J-2
WEIGHT: 1,059,171 lbs. (fueled), 288,750 lbs. (dry)

FUN FACT:

The second stage is made of a metal alloy that actually becomes stronger the colder it gets!

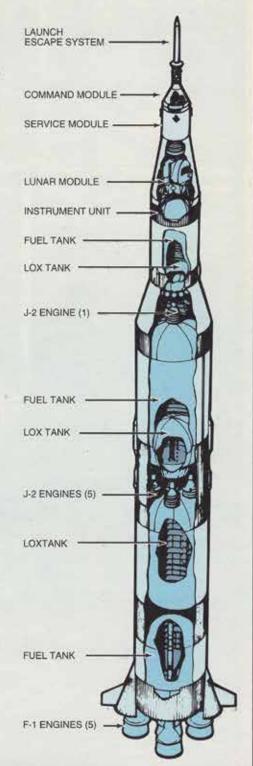
FIRST STAGE (S-1C): MANUFACTURER: Boeing HEIGHT: 138 ft. DIAMETER: 33 ft. MAIN ENGINES: Five F-1

WEIGHT: 5,022,674 lbs.(fueled), 288,750 lbs. (dry)

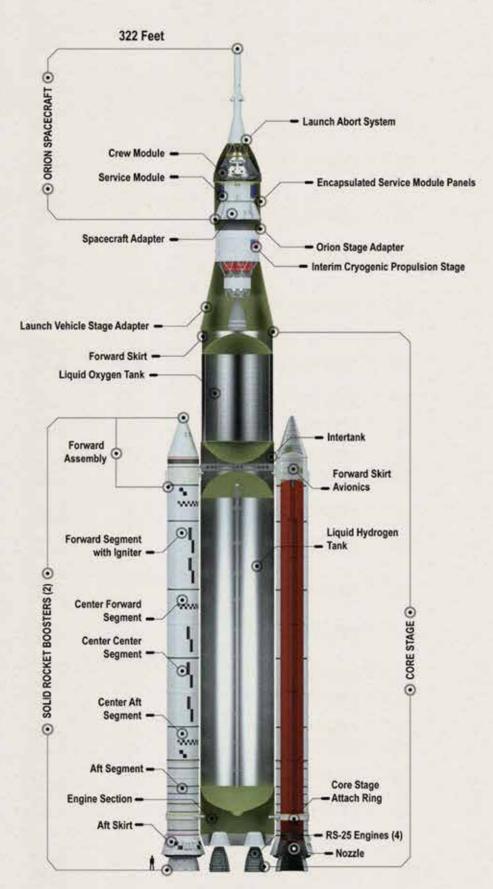
FUN FACTS:

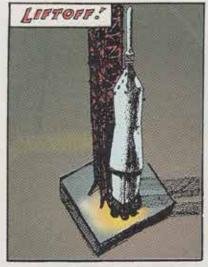
The rocket's five F-1 rocket engines produce 7.5 million pounds of thrust, equivalent to 62 Concorde supersonic airliners at maximum thrust!

Burning nearly three tons of propellants every second, the temperature in the F-1's combustion chamber reaches almost 6,000 degrees Fahrenheit!



SLS 70-metric-ton Initial Configuration



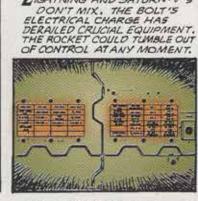












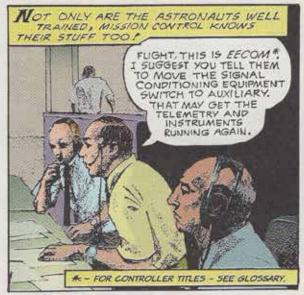
LIGHTNING AND SATURN-V'S

WHAT THE HECK IS GOING ON ?

I THINK WE WERE HIT BY LIGHTNING NASA'S COUNTING ON ME TO MAKE THE RIGHT DECISION. SO ARE DICK AND AL.































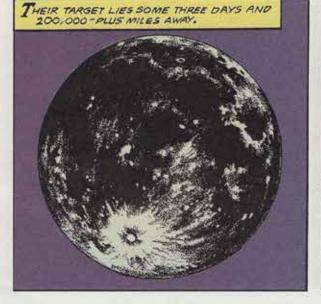






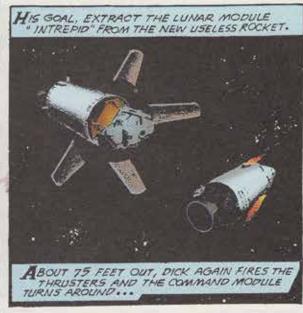
























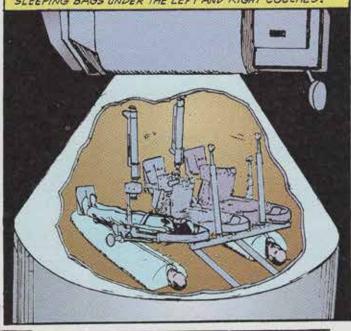






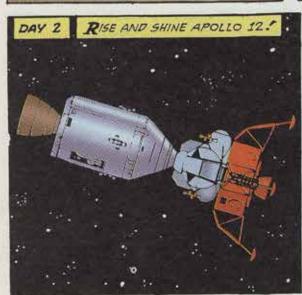


DICK SLEEPS IN THE LEFT COUCH WITH THE HEADSET ON, READY TO TALK WITH MISSION CONTROL IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY. PETE AND AL USE THE BETA-CLOTH SLEEPING BAGS UNDER THE LEFT AND RIGHT COUCHES.

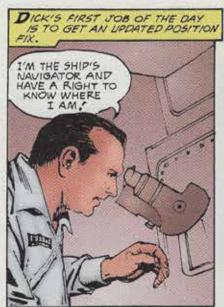




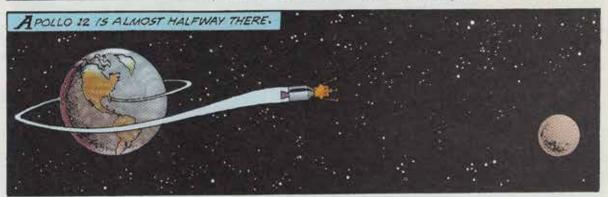




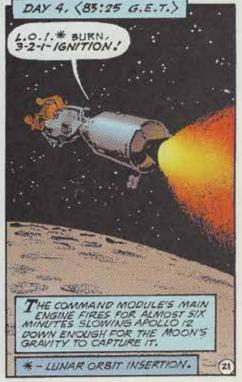


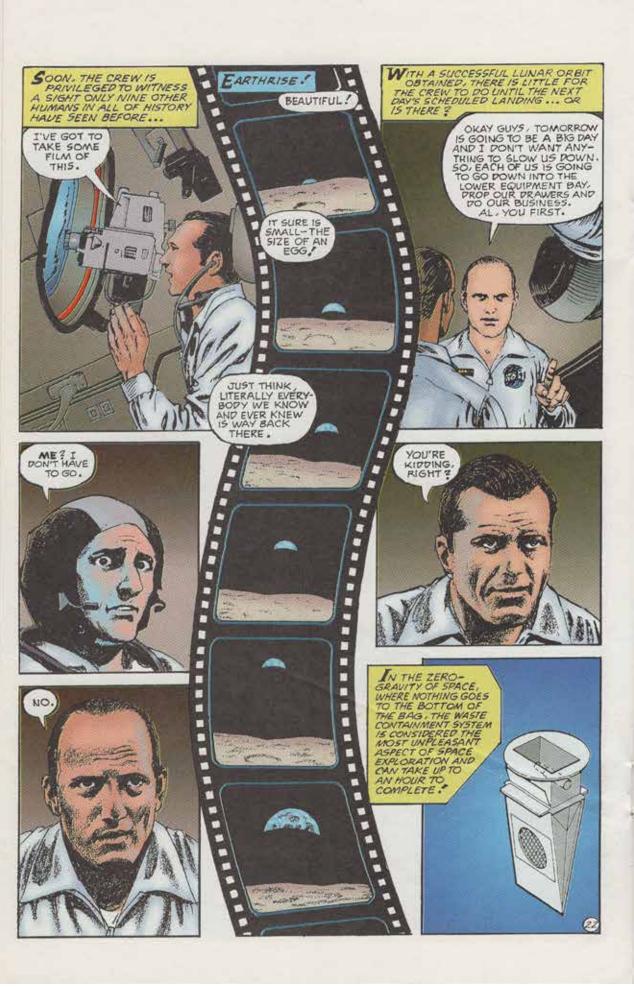
























STATS:

SERIAL NUMBER: LM-6

MANUFACTURER: Grumman Corporation HEIGHT: 22 ft. 11 in. (legs extended)

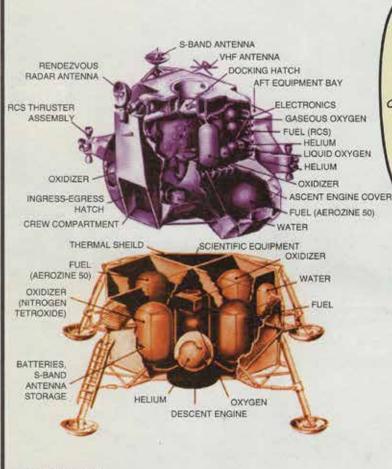
DIAMETER: 31 ft. (diagonally across landing gear)

ROCKETS: 18 (total)

DESCENT ENGINE THRUST: variable between 1,050 lbs.

- 9,870 lbs.

LOADED WEIGHT (fully fueled): 33,325 lbs.



FUN FACTS:

Over 70-percent of the Lunar Module's weight is fuell

The Lunar Module is so fragile its pressure shell can be pierced by a dropped screwdriver

Designed to work in no more than 1/6th Earth gravity, the Lunar Module's landing gear is so flimsy that on Earth a fully fueled Intrepid would collapse of its own weight!

THIS IS MY SHIP INTREPID, NAMED AFTER THE DICTIONARY DEFINITION*. THE LUNAR MODULE IS A TWO-PART SPACECRAFT. THE DESCENT STAGE HAS THE LANDING GEAR, ENGINES, MAIN BATTERIES AND FUEL NEEDED FOR THE MOON LANDING. THE ASCENT STAGE HAS THE CREW COMPARTMENT, FLIGHT CONTROLS AND ITS OWN PROPULSION SYSTEM FOR LUNAR LIFTOFF. DESIGNED TO CARRY THE COMMANDER AND LM PILOT, THE LM HAD TO BE ULTRA-LIGHTWEIGHT. SO LIGHT, IN FACT, THE ENGINEERS EVEN TOOK OUT OUR SEATS!



SEF GLOSSARY



X- APOLLO 11 HAD LANDED OVER 4 MILES
OFF TARGET. PETE AND AL ARE DETERMINED
TO MAKE MAN'S FIRST PINPOINT LUNAR
LANDING, CLEARING THE WAY FOR EVEN
MORE HAZARDOUS LANDING SITES ON
FUTURE MISSIONS.













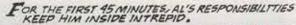








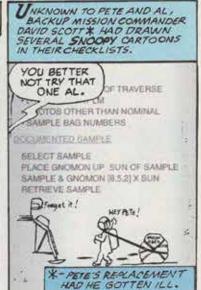
THERE ON THE FAR EDGE OF A CRATER 1,100 - FEET WIDE SITS THEIR QUARRY. HOT-DIGGETY-DOG, OLD SURVEYOR 3 / RIGHT WHERE IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE!



















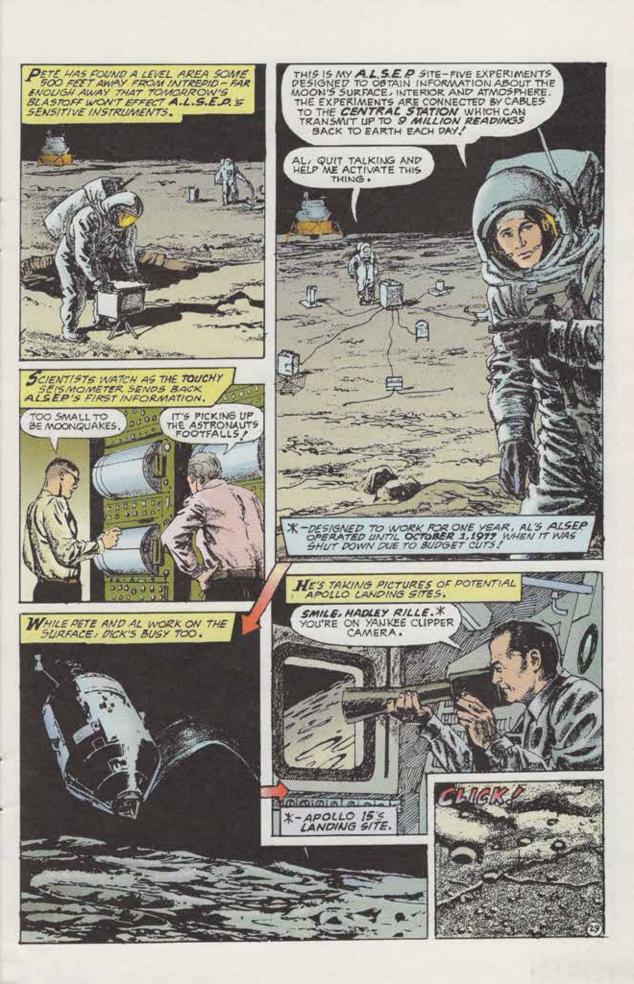




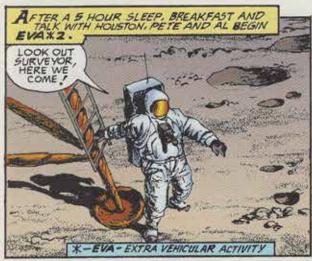


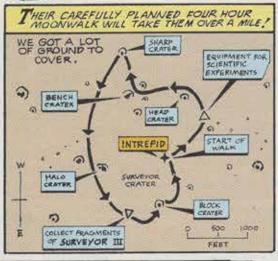










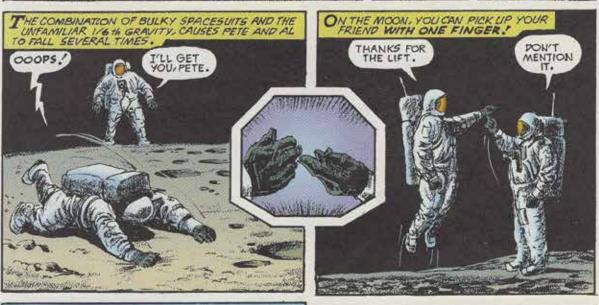






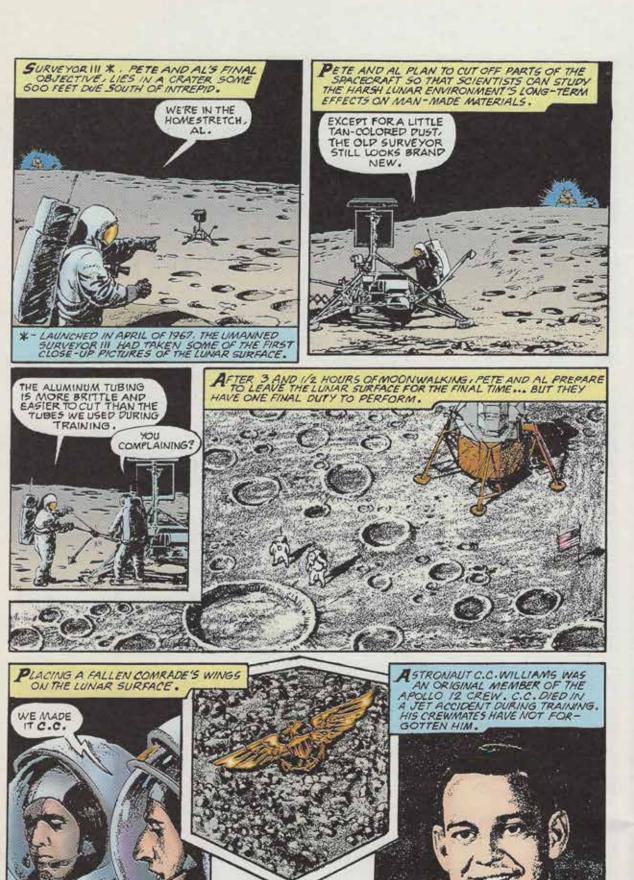


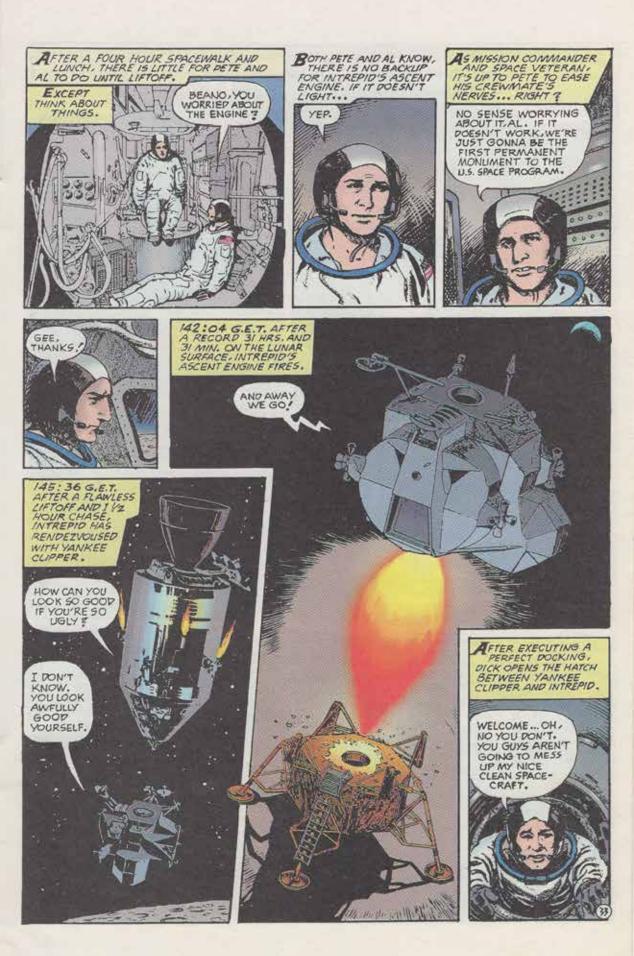














I'M NOT KIDDING GUYS. ALL THAT DUST CAN SET BEHIND SWITCHES AND SHORT OUT ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS! TAKE OFF THOSE FILTHY SPACE SUITS AND I'LL LET YOU IN.



THE TIMELINE TIGHT, PETE AND AL BARELY HAVE ENOUGH TIME TO STRIP DOWN TO THEIR BIRTHDAY SUITS AND TRANSFER THEIR PRECIOUS MOON— ROCKS AND THEMSELVES BEFORE DICK JETTISONS INTREPID.



YOU KNOW AL THE FIRST LUNAR STREAKERS!







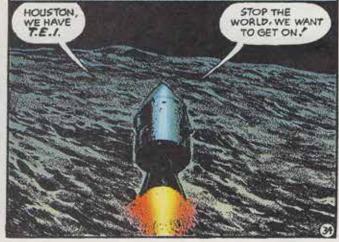
BACK ON EARTH SCIENTISTS WATCH AS APOLLO 12'S A.L.S.E.P. SENDS BACK DATA. SEISMOLOGISTS BELIEVED SUCH INFORMATION WOULD TELL THEM ABOUT THE MOON'S STRUCTURE.

THE MOON'S RINGING LIKE A BELL.

ON EARTH, SUCH TREMOR WOULD LAST NO MORE THAN TWO



172:27 G.E.T. AFTER 45 REVOLUTIONS AND 88 HRS 56 MIN IN LUNAR ORBIT, YANKEE CLIPPER'S SERVICE PROPULSION ENGINE FIRES FOR 130 SECONDS, INJECTING APOLLO 12 INTO A TRANS-EARTH TRAJECTORY.





LUNAR TRIVIA

Q: How wide (diameter) is the moon?

A: 2,180 miles (3,500 kilometers), about the distance between St. Louis and San Francisco.

Q: What does astronaut mean?

A: Star Voyager.

Q: How many astronauts walked on the moon?

A: Twelve.

Q: How many pounds of rocks did the Apollo astronauts bring back from the moon?

A. 841 Earth pounds (remember, the moon has 1/6th the Earth's gravity).

Q: What was the biggest moon rock the astronauts brought back?

A: Dubbed 'Big Mulley' by the Apollo 16 crew, the footballsized rock tipped the scales at 25.89 (Earth) pounds.

Q: Who was the first geologist to walk on the moon? A: Harrison Schmitt on Apollo 17.

Q: What is a contingency sample?

A: The first geological sample an astronaut takes from the lunar surface.

Q: What is a crater?

A: A depression formed by the impact of a meteorite.

Q: Besides werewolves, what visible effects does the moon have on things on the Earth?

A: It causes tides in large bodies of water like the Atlantic and Pacific oceans.

Q: Which came first, Arnold Schwarzeneggar or the terminator?

A: The terminator! It is an astrological term going back eons describing the dividing line between the illuminated and dark portions of the moon (or other celestial bodies).

Q: Which planned Apollo lunar landing mission became the world's first deep space emergency? A: Apollo 13.

Q: Which Apollo mission named their spacecraft after cartoon characters?

A: Apollo 10, the command module was dubbed Charlie Brown and the lunar module, Snoopy.

Q: How long is a lunar day?

A: Same as a lunar night - 14 Earth days.

Q: How cold does the moon get at night?

A: Minus-270 degrees Fahrenheit! It's exactly opposite in the daytime - plus-270 degrees Fahrenheit.

Q: Who had the most and least moonwalking time of all the astronauts?

A: Most: Gene Cernan on Apollo 17: 22:04 hours Least: Buzz Aldrin on Apollo 11: 2:15 hours



Q: Who hit a golf ball on the moon? A: Alan Shepard on Apollo 14.

Q: How many astronauts have made the trip beyond the Earth's gravitational influence?
A: 24 (three made the trip twice).

Q: Can you name the three astronauts who made the trip beyond the Earth's gravitational influence?
A: Jim Lovell (Apollo 8 & 13), John Young (Apollo 10 & 16), and Gene Cernan (Apollo 10 & 17).

Q: How much ice builds up on the skin of the Saturn V before launch?

A: 1400 pounds.

Q: Which moonwalker also flew the X-15 rocket plane?

A: Neil Armstrong.

Q: Which moonwalker also flew the space shuttle? A: John Young.

*Q: Currently, what is the average number of applicants for each two year cycle of NASA's astronaut candidate program? A: 3000.

*Q: On average, how many applicants for each astronaut selection are accepted?

A: Twenty.

Q: Who said - 'We choose to go to the moon and do the other things not because they are easy but because they are hard'?

A: United States President John F. Kennedy.

*Q: How come we haven't returned to the moon?
A: You got us!

* Lots has changed since this comic was published. In 2016, there were more than 18,300 applicants! Twelve were accepted, including five women. And America is going back to the Moon. By 2024, the Artemis program will send the first woman and next man to the Moon for the next generation of lunar exploration. By 2028, NASA will establish a sustainable human presence on the Moon, then set its sights on Mars! Read all about it at www.nasa.gov/artemis.

LUNAR GEOLOGIST

Q: Scientists have been studying lunar samples for over 25 years. Haven't you learned everything there is to learn by now?

GRAHAM: Definitely not! We haven't fully looked at all the rocks yet and there are new scientific techniques that weren't around 25 years ago that are just now becoming available.

Q: Where are the moonrocks now?

GRAHAM: The main sample collection is at the Johnson Space Center in Houston. A small, virtually untouched reserve is kept in a vault at Brooks Air Force Base in San Antonio. Also, there are samples loaned out to researchers and still others on display at museums around the world.

Q: How are lunar samples stored?

GRAHAM: The moon is a vacuum and a vacuum is very hard to work in. But, if a sample were exposed to Earth's atmosphere it would be contaminated. So we compromised, storing the lunar samples in dry nitrogen and handling them while wearing rubber gloves coated with Teflon.

Q: How do you study a lunar sample?

GRAHAM: We use chemical analysis to find out what they are made of. We use a microscope to do texture analysis, that gives us some idea how the rocks are constructed. Finally, there is radioactive isotope dating to determine the age of the lunar sample.

Q: What's one interesting fact about the moon?

GRAHAM: The moon is incredibly dry. It doesn't contain a single water molecule that we know about.

Q: Where did the moon come from?

GRAHAM: We still don't know the answer to that one. The information we have points to a large, Mars-sized body hitting the Earth early in its evolution. The resulting impact blew a lot of debris into Earth orbit where it came together to make the moon.

Q: If I had a moon rock, how much would it be worth?

GRAHAM: I don't think there is such a number. You can only talk about a moonrock's replacement cost. For example, if a lunar sample got lost, what would you do? You can't replace it... easily. Project Apollo cost billions and there are currently no moon landing programs planned. The moonrocks the Apollo astronauts brought back are national treasures and are priceless.

O: How is a crater formed?

GRAHAM: Craters are formed when something smacks into the moon at high speed.

Q: Why are some craters bigger than others?

GRAHAM: They depend on how hig the rock is that hits the lunar surface. The usual ratio we use is ten-to-one. That is, if you are looking at a crater ten meters wide, you can be pretty sure it was created by the impact if a rock about one meter wide.

Q: How long will Pete and Al's lunar footprints last?

GRAHAM: Tens of millions of years, perhaps more.

Q: Why will their footprints last so long?

GRAHAM: There is nothing up there to erode them like there is here on Earth. There is no atmosphere, no air or water to blow the dust around. Unless a big rock hits at just the right place, which is pretty unlikely, it will take millions of years of bombardment by micrometeorites to erode their footprints.

Q: Micrometeorites are small meteorites?

GRAHAM: Exactly. The size of a period at the end of a sentence... or smaller. Meteorites and micrometeorites are the debris left over from the creation of our solar system. They hit the Earth too but usually burn up in the upper atmosphere and become shooting stars.

Q: Do you wish you could go to the moon?

GRAHAM: Sure. I'd probably be scared to death but I'd go.

Q: Are the 841 pounds of moon the astronauts brought back enough to tell us everything we want to know?

GRAHAM: We have only visited six lunar sites and spent only a few hours at each of them. If scientists tried to understand the Earth from such a small-scale study, they'd probably be a long way from knowing what they wanted to know.

Q: How does someone become a lunar geologist?

GRAHAM: You have to go to college and study geology or planetary geology.

Q: Can you tell the difference between a rock from the moon and one from Earth?

GRAHAM; Easily. I can tell just by looking at a lunar sample under a microscope that it is a section of the moon. It's not a meteorite. It's not of the Earth. It's from the moon.

Q: Do you get a kick out of working with moonrocks?

GRAHAM: You bet! When I was a kid, the moon was out of reach. We could look at it through telescopes but nobody had ever visited there. Now, I sometimes walk out of the lab at night and look up into the sky, see the moon and realize I've just been working with part of that! It is an amazing thing.

SUGGESTED READING

"Apollo By the Numbers" by Richard W. Orloff. 2000. US Government Printing Office. https://history.nasa.gov/SP-4029.pdf

"Where No Man Has Gone Before: A History of Apollo Lunar Exploration Missions" by W. David Compton, 1989, US Government Printing Office. https://history.nasa.gov/SP-4214.pdf

In the half-century since people visited the Moon, NASA has continued to push the boundaries of knowledge to deliver on the promise of American ingenuity and leadership in space. NASA will continue that work by moving forward to the Moon with astronauts landing on the lunar South Pole by 2024.

Learn about the legacy of Apollo at https://www.nasa.gov/apollo50.

Artemis is the first step to begin the next era of exploration. NASA will establish a sustainable human presence on the Moon with the goal of sending humans to Mars. NASA will lead an innovative and sustainable program of exploration with commercial and international partners to enable human expansion across the solar system and to bring back to Earth new knowledge and opportunities.

Learn about Artemis at https://www.nasa.gov/artemis and NASA's Moon to Mars approach at https://www.nasa.gov/topics/moon-to-mars.

NASA's Space Launch System will be the most powerful rocket we've ever built. It will enable astronauts to begin their journey to explore destinations far into the solar system. NASA's Orion spacecraft is built to take humans farther than they've ever gone before. Orion will serve as the exploration vehicle that will carry the crew to space, provide emergency abort capability, sustain the crew during the space travel, and provide safe re-entry from deep space return velocities.

Learn more about the rocket at https://www.nasa.gov/exploration/systems/sis/index.html. Learn more about the spacecraft at https://www.nasa.gov/exploration/systems/orion/index.html.

To find out how to become an astronaut, visit https://www.nasa.gov/content/astronaut-selection-program.

Discover the NASA STEM Forward to the Moon Educators Guide and hands-on science activities for the whole family at https://www.nasa.gov/stem-ed-resources/nasa-stem-forward-to-the-moon-educators-guide.html.

LUNAR MODULE PILOT



Q: If you landed on the "Ocean of Storms", where is the water? AL: Back in the early 1600's, when Galileo trained his telescope on the moon, he saw mountainous areas and regions that looked darker and flatter. Galileo thought they must be the same as the oceans and seas on Earth. So, as discoverers do, he named his findings accordingly. That is why Apollo 11 landed on the "Sea of Tranquility" and Pete and I landed on the "Ocean of Storms".

Q: What was walking on the moon like?

AL: It was truly a wonderful adventure and reminded me of the time I was a small boy visiting my grandparent's farm in Michigan. In the wintertime my parents would bundle me up in a snowsuit, overshoes, mittens and hat. When I walked through my grandparent's uneven plowed fields it was a lot like walking on the moon because all that winter clothing was bulky like my space suit and the moon's surface, although made up of volcanic rock and dust, is very uneven like a plowed field. Everything we did on the moon kicked up powdery, grayish dust.

Q: Except the moon's gravity is different.

AL: Right! It isn't like running on the Earth because the moon's gravity is only 1/6th that of Earth. Down here, I weigh 150 pounds and my space suit and backpack weigh another 150 pounds. But on the moon, the combined weight of me and my gear was only 50 pounds. I felt strong up there. When I pushed off with one foot, there

was a long pause until landing on the other foot; it was like running in slow motion.

Q: What does the dark side of the moon look like?

AL: First point I should make is that there is no dark side of the moon anymore than there is a dark side of the Earth. Just as the Earth spins around once every 24 hours giving you day and night, the moon does also only more slowly. It spins around once every 14 Earth days. But only one side is ever visible from the Earth. That's the near-side.

Q: Okay, what does the far side of the moon look like?

AL: It looks a lot like the near side only much rougher because it lacks the flat 'oceans' and 'seas' of the front side.

Q: How come there are no craters on the Earth?

AL: There are! As a matter of fact we trained for Apollo 12 in the biggest crater on Earth., Meteor Crater in Arizona. It is the biggest at 4,150 feet in diameter.

Q: What was your biggest thrill while on the moon?

AL: Looking back at the Earth. It was about the size of a baseball and I remember thinking that I am really here on the moon and everybody else, except Pete and Dick and me, were on this beautiful blue and white ball.

Q: What was weightlessness like?

AL: Weightlessness is one of the most difficult things to describe because there is nothing perfectly like it on Earth. However, the thing that comes closer than any other is floating in a swimming pool. The problem with that is in a swimming pool, your hand and leg movements propel you through the water. In zero gravity of space, the air doesn't resist your hand and leg movements enough to make any significant motion.

O: How can I become an astronaut?

AL: First of all, if you're in school, there is nothing more important than learning as much as your teachers can teach you. To be a good astronaut, you not only have to be a good pilot and a good scientist, but you have to be able to write and communicate complex information, do mathematics and science without being infimidated and have a good understanding of physics and chemistry. Basically, none of the things you learn in school are unimportant.

Q: What would happen if your space suit broke?

AL: If my space suit sprung a leak, either from a seam ripping or a meteoroid impact, it would let all the air out and I would immediately fall unconscious. In fact, I probably wouldn't know that it occurred and shortly after lapsing into unconsciousness I would die from lack of oxygen to the brain.

O: Were you ever scared?

AL: Yes, I was scared sometimes but through training and self-discipline I learned to quit thinking about being scared and to concentrate on the job that I had to do. If I can do it, so can anyone!

Q: What lies in the future?

AL: People will go back to the moon. It will happen much the same way humans first explored the frontiers of Earth. First there will be small settlements, then villages and finally cities. And when that is complete we will probably do the same thing on Mars, some of Jupiter's moons and the other planets. So, young people should realize that the great adventures are in the future not in the past and if they want to be part of it, they should start getting the training and education they need.

*Alan Bean died May 26, 2018, at age 86.

GLOSSARY

APOLLO: the Greek god of light

BENDS: sometimes fatal disorder characterized by paralysis and distress in breathing caused by the release by gas bubbles in tissue upon too rapid decrease in air pressure

BERNOULLI'S PRINCIPLE: increase in the velocity of any fluid is always accompanied by a decrease in pressure (air is considered a fluid).

CISLUNAR: the area of space between the Earth and the moon

COSMONAUT: Russian term for 'astronaut'

EECOM: (Environmental, Electrical and Communications Engineer) EECOM monitors and troubleshoots command/service module systems.

ESCAPE VELOCITY: the speed which a particle or larger body must attain in order to escape the gravitational field of a planet or star.

FIDO: (Flight Dynamics Officer), plots spacecraft trajectory

GNC: (Guidance and Navigation Officer), in charge of command module's guidance, navigation and propulsion systems G.E.T.-Ground Elapsed Time (since liftoff)

GUIDO: (Guidance Officer), chief navigation officer.

COMMAND MODULE PILOT DICK GORDON



Q: Why does your space suit look different than your crew mates? DICK: Mine was unlike Pete and Al's because it was not designed for EVA (Extra-Vehicular Activity). It didn't have the connections to be hooked up with the spacecraft and backpack at the same time. Also, the interior of their suits was different. They had a water-cooled garment to help cool them while they were on the lunar surface and their suits had more layers of protection due to the radiation and heat they would be exposed to on the lunar surface.

Q: Did you get much sleep the night before launch?

DICK: I slept very well. I realized I had done everything I could possibly do and was ready to fly. Everybody thinks you'd be keyed up and excited and you are, but there's a certain calmness that you surround yourself with.

O: How about in space? Is it easy to sleep up there?

DICK; It isn't the 0-gravity that keeps you up. It's the noise level inside the spacecraft. We would darken the command module by placing shades over the windows to keep out the light and it got just like night. But there was always popping and gurgling from the fans and machinery that was constantly running. Despite those distractions, I never did have much problem sleeping up there.

Q: Why did you always sleep in one of Yankee Clipper's couches? DICK: I found it more comfortable and familiar than the sleeping bags. I could use the straps to tie myself down and tuck my hands underneath my body so they weren't floating around. You had to do that so they wouldn't float out and inadvertently flip a switch on the instrument panel.

Q: Why was Apollo 12's liftoff in such bad weather?

DICK: Some people say we were launched because the President of the

United States was in the V.I.P. stands. Actually, we were ready to fly, the bird (Saturn V) was ready to fly and mission control gave us the 'Go'. So, we went.

Q: What happened when you got hit by lightning?

DICK: We had more warning lights than we ever saw during training. But we all did our jobs. Pete was telling mission control about our situation. I was making sure the booster (Saturn V), was functioning properly. And Al was busy trying to get the electrical system back on line.

Q: Were you scared?

DICK: It really wasn't a frightening experience because we were too busy taking care of business to think about it.

Q: What did the lightning do to the spacecraft?

DICK: That was one of mission control's concerns throughout the entire mission. They thought we might have damaged our parachates and that would have been the end of that story. Fortunately, all it did was derail a fuel quantity gauge but that wasn't enough to call a halt to the mission... And it gave us one heck of a story to tell our grandchildren.

Q: What were you doing when you weren't actually flying Yankee Clipper?

DICK: There were always chores to perform just like taking care of any house. A simple thing on Earth like eating would take an incredible amount of time in space and create a remarkable amount of garbage that you'd have to clean up. Also, there were lithium hydroxide canisters that needed to be changed, water that needed to be chlorinated, dust screens that needed to be cleaned. A lot of tiny things but they add up.

O: What does space food taste like?

DICK: It wasn't bad but I'm not very objective. I always eat whatever is put on my plate.

Q: You were alone in the command module for 38 hours. Did you get lonely while Pete and Al were on the lunar surface?

DICK: Actually, I didn't have time. I was always doing something. Either taking pictures of the lunar surface, housekeeping in the command module or performing an engine burn, I had something to do almost every second. Besides [smiles], with those two guys gone I finally had some room to move around.

Q: During reentry, the temperature outsideYankee Clipper soared to almost 5000 degrees Fahrenheit. How warm did it get in the spacecraft?

DICK. Around 75 degrees. We had a heat shield that was designed to dissipate heat by the process of ablation. That is, the heat shield was made of a material that would partially erode, carrying the heat along with it as evaporated.

Q: You kind of looked like a big meteor, right?

DICK: Yes. It was quite a show out the spacecraft window. Lots of bluegreens, yellows and oranges trailing behind the spacecraft as far as the eye could see.

Q: What is the coolest thing about being an astronaut?

DICK: I would have to say the adventure. You get to go where no one has gone before and do things no one has done.

Dick Gordon died Nov. 6, 2017, at age 88.

INGRESS: the act of entering

INTREPID: characterized by resolute fearlessness, fortitude and endurance

PYROTECHNICS: controlled explosion designed to propel apart two previously joined surfaces

REGOLITH: the moon's unconsolidated rocky debris and soil (lunar dirt)

RENDEZVOUS: the planned meeting of two or more spacecraft in close proximity, matching orbits and velocities

RETRO: (Retrofire Officer), in charge of the spacecraft's reentry into the Earth's atmosphere

SELENOLOGY: the study of the moon

STAGES: two or more rockets stacked on top of each other in order to reach higher altitudes or have greater payload capability.

TELEMETRY: a system of data relay via radio

TELMU: (LM Systems Officer), monitors the lunar module's electrical, environmental and other systems.

ASK CAPTAIN PETE**

—Do you think there's any life in space?
— Edward Zisk, (15) Springfield, OH

Captain Pete: Haven't seen any, but I believe it is a definite possibility. After all, there's plenty of unearthly looking things moving around in my refrigerator so there's always a chance of life springing up almost anywhere.

—If you weren't an astronaut, what would you be?

— Chad Mellon, (12) St. Louis, MO

Captain Pete: A cosmonaut.

- How do you go to the bathroom in space?

— Stacey Rimer, (14) Wahington, D.C.
Captain Pete: If you want to keep your friends, very carefully.

- Did you really sleep on the launch pad?

- Jan Kennish, (17) Toronto, Canada

Captain Pete: Yes, but I wish I could tell you it's a result of me being as cool as ice. The truth is I spent most of the night before launch staring at the ceiling of my bedroom thinking about the fact that the next day I was headed to the moon... for real! That night I got zero sleep and the next day's countdown had some places where where a guy doesn't have much to do. The rest is nap history.

Did you feel lonely on the moon?
 Lydia Lacey Hart, (28) Hoboken, NJ

Captain Pete: Nah, I was just glad to get out of that cramped spacecraft and stretch my legs. Besides, I had AI with me and Dick was only 60 miles away.†

—Did you really walk on the moon? I heard it was all a trick filmed in the desert.

- Paula Weinberg, (16) Fort Dodge, IA

Captain Pete: All I know is I did and Al did. Maybe the other flights were faked but ours wasn't. Besides, you think we could keep this thing quiet all these years if it wasn't real?

- Did your rocket go warp speed?

- Theresa Warner, (12) Mobile, AL

Captain Pete: According to my good friend Captain Kirk, warp speed is equal to the speed of light (186,000 miles per second!) Since my Saturn V's top speed was a mere 7 miles per second (25,000 mph), it came as close to warp speed as I come to dunking a basketball!

What's your favorite thing about being an astronaut?
 Heather Hewitt, (15) Louisville, KY

Captain Pete: Seeing the Earth from space. That was awesome.

How come you didn't have a moon car to ride around in?
 Fritz Greenspan, (14) Sarasota, FL

Captain Pete: Riding is for weenlest Al and I will take hoofing any day of the week... Actually, both of us got kind of tired moonwalking in those bulky suits and sure wished there was something to take us around. The last three Apollo fights (15, 16, 17), all had moon cars called lunar rovers. Those rovers really expanded the range of exploration away from the lunar module. [See upcoming issue for the lunar rover story]



- How do I become an astronaut?

- David Berman, (10) Grand Forks, SD

Captain Pete: Study hard. Learn to fly. Walk the straight and narrow... but don't forget to have a blast!

— What kind of glasses are those anyhow?

- Chris Gilliam, (16) Nashville, TN

Captain Pete: Top Secret.

- Do you fly the Space Shuttle?

- Meg Macer, (12) Charleston, WA

Captain Pete: No.

- Why not?

- Meg Macer, again!

Captain Pete: After my Skylab flight I knew it was going to be a long time before the Shuttle would fly. And I knew I didn't want to sit around on my hands for eight years so I went on to other things.

-What are you doing now?

- Tonia Dobbs, (17) Phoenix, AZ

Captain Pete: I'm at McDonnell Douglas Aerospace working on a new rocket that may very well launch you and other people your age, into space someday in the future. Other than that, I'm giving speeches and doing the best I can to get the news out about the importance of space.

— I've always wanted to be an astronaut. You have a cool picture. Where can I get a poster of that?

- Kenny Carlson, (17) Santa Monica, CA

Captain Pete: A sharp, discerning eye is important in an astronaut. You'll go far in this man's space program! Regarding the poster, direct your baby-blues below.

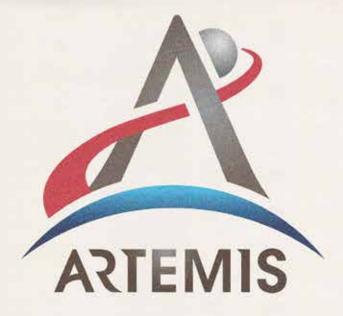
Thanks for writing and writing and remember - If you want some time in zero-g, you gotta log the hours in the libraree! Love and Command Modules, - Captain Pete

* - see Glossary

- † Dick Gordon's command Module orbited at 60 miles altitude.
- Pete Conrad died July 8, 1999, after a motorcycle accident, at age 69.

MOON SHOT, The Flight of Apollo 12, was published originally in June 1994. NASA created this 50th anniversary electronic reproduction through the courtesy of copyright owners Nancy Conrad, D.C. Agle and Kurt Blemaster. "Ask Captain Pete" and the "Captain Pete Poster" are no longer available.

Nancy Conrad says: "In 1969, Pete and his two best friends strapped in for their ultimate adventure... the launch aboard a Saturn V rocket for their journey to their landing site, the Ocean of Storms, Moon. It was the most daring and extraordinary adventure humanity had ever dared to dream. And it was a time of magic. If Pete were here today he would encourage you to become a student of life and to conceive believe and achieve the breakthrough ideas, technologies, and sustainable solutions that will influence and determine the future and the wellbeing of our planet. He would ask us to all work together as we seek new crew members for the next great Moonshot... sustaining spaceship Earth."



Humanity's Return to the Moon

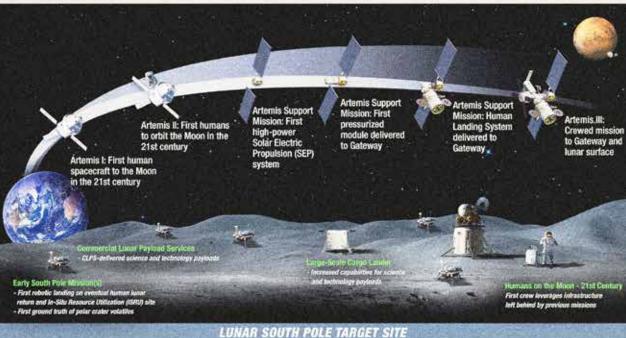
Apollo captured the world's attention and inspired generations of great achievements, exploration, and scientific discovery.

From July 1969 to December 1972, six Moon landings put 12 astronauts on the lunar surface and transformed how we see humanity. The mission of Apollo was to land Americans on the Moon and return them safely to Earth. The Apollo program represents one of the greatest engineering and scientific achievements of the 20th century. NASA is returning America to the Moon!

We are going to the Moon to prepare for Mars.

In Greek mythology, Artemis was the twin sister of Apollo. With the Artemis program, NASA will land the first woman and next man on the Moon by 2024, using innovative technologies to explore more of the lunar surface than ever before. We will collaborate with our commercial and international partners and establish sustainable exploration by 2028. Then, we will use what we learn on and around the Moon to take the next giant leap – sending astronauts to Mars.

We are going with a sustainable architecture, the likes of which has never been built before.



2020

2024

This timeline illustrates NASA's preferred approach to landing the first woman and next man on the Moon. It highlights only the near-term path. Artemis includes all our lunar exploration activities through at least the next decade.

